

NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary information on 787TH – Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macao Bridge Hong Kong Section and North Lantau Highway Connection – investigation and preliminary design

INTRODUCTION

In considering PWSC(2003-04)49 on **787TH** on 29 October 2003, Members requested the Administration to provide details of the sustainability assessment for the Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macao Bridge (“the Bridge”) and its connecting infrastructure, including those that had been covered in previous studies and those which would be included in the proposed investigation and preliminary design study.

THE ADMINISTRATION’S RESPONSE

2. The general objectives of conducting sustainability assessments are to assess the economic, environmental and social impacts of major initiatives or projects and ensure the integration of sustainability principles into the planning process. We will conduct a sustainability assessment for the Hong Kong Section of the Bridge and its connecting infrastructure under the investigation study proposed to Members vide PWSC(2003-04)49.

3. In accordance with the sustainability assessment system promulgated by the Government, we would compare the different options of landing points and alignments for the Hong Kong Section of the Bridge and its connecting infrastructure by –

- (a) setting out the objectives and full assumptions of our proposal;

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- (b) checking the relevance of each of the sustainability indicators¹;
- (c) giving qualitative/quantitative input to explain the likely impact of the proposal on each of the relevant or affected indicators; and
- (d) checking the validity of the findings.

4. We will work closely with relevant bureaux and departments, including the Sustainable Development Unit, in carrying out the assessment. The assessment will help identify any sensitive or cross-sectoral issues for attention and joint departmental examination at an early stage and help address the issues in a concerted effort.

5. Upon completion of the investigation study, we will report to the Transport Panel of the Legislative Council the outcome of the sustainability assessment as part of the investigation study for the Hong Kong Section of the Bridge and its connecting infrastructure.

Environment, Transport and Works Bureau
November 2003

¹ These indicators are grouped under the headings of economy, health and hygiene, natural resources, society and social infrastructure, biodiversity, leisure and cultural vibrancy, environmental quality and mobility.